

Bernard-Stevens brought us. That bill was not acted on and there was no amount plugged into the budget, partly...primarily because there was a request for proposals out there. It isn't very good business to allocate money and then go through the request for proposal process. So it's simply a matter of timing, Senator Bernard-Stevens, of when that...when we have adequate information. That was recently brought to us, I think, within the last two weeks that the request for proposal process has been completed. I'm very interested in this project. It has a major opportunity to impact the whole educational system in the state. I will be supportive of this library automation project when the time comes. Maybe that time is yet this year. I don't know at this point, but I'm very supportive of the concept. But I cannot deny the need for Founders Hall. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, please, followed by Senator Warner. Senator Bernard-Stevens, your turn.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you. Very quickly, and this will be the final comments I'll make. Senator Schimek was right on target in a couple of areas. But I think she may have missed one particular area, and I want to reiterate that. Founders Hall is facing a need of growth. At Kearney State, as Senator Wehrbein pointed out, there is...the 67 percent as in relationship to the other state colleges, Kearney clearly needs more capital construction in regards to space. There is no doubt about that. What Senator Schimek, I think, and her and I, Senator Schimek and I just had a nice little conversation explaining it, that I was not saying right now that I wanted to directly substitute in because that would not be germane, and I'm not intending to do so. What I'm intending to do is say that we have a discussion on Founders Hall and I question whether, when we make a decision on something on overcapacity, or in this case undercapacity, and we're not going to be able to solve that problem, we make that decision but we put off, or we do not make a decision to fund something that is very worthwhile educationally, and I think sometimes our priorities get turned around. My main intent of this this afternoon, and I think the intent, hopefully, has been accomplished to show that there is a lot of support out there for library automation. Senator Wehrbein has stated that he felt the proposal was a good proposal, and the committee could not necessarily put it in the budget because they were going through the bidding process, which is now completed. Senator Scofield has said some real